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Customer No.: 26263

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Paul J. Rank et al.

Group Art Unit: 2178

Application No.: 09/756,642

Examiner: Heather R. Herndon

Filed: January 3, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A FILE FORMAT FOR STORING SPREADSHEETS
COMPACTLY

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. section 1.97(b))**

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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FEB 03 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. 37 C.F.R. section 1.97(b).

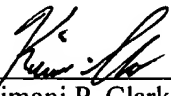
The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. section 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus the prompt return of a copy of the herewith Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per M.P.E.P. 609 are earnestly solicited.

Please charge any additional fees in connection with this filing to our Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,


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